

Israel Over-Modest at Lyons

Pavilion at International Trade Fair is Inadequate

By ISRAEL NEUMANN
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LYONS. — "I want to visit Israel; please let me see it," was the first and most common request of the thousands of visitors to the International Trade Fair at Lyons. The pavilion at the Lyons International Fair several requests of this kind were addressed to me; in this particular case the inquiry came from a young man of about 20, rather modestly dressed. The same evening, on the train from Lyons to Chambery, a peasant boy took the seat opposite me; the moment the train pulled out he drew from his pocket a booklet about Israel, that was being distributed at the fair and began reading it. Israel was becoming something concrete for this boy and not just a name in the Bible and in the news.

One may doubt whether many of these young men will ever really get here; but even the propagation of information about Israel among groups which could not otherwise be reached is something to be welcomed. As to financial profit, the pavilion is visited by hundreds of thousands of people, French, European and even African, who come to the fair to do business. But one may well wonder whether the result would not be better if Israel industry were more adequately represented.

The pavilion occupies a most agreeable first impression. It is so located that you cannot miss it, and although one should rather call it the Israel Stand, the space it occupies being only 60 sq. m., most of the national stands are about the same size and it is among the more attractive. Incidentally, it was the German architect of the West German pavilion who was responsible for the arrangement of the exhibits and he did a good job of displaying everything beginning with the prayer shawl and the Jerusalem Bible, and ending with the Jewish visitors, whom one can identify by the look in their eyes when they look over the



M. Debré, French Prime Minister (third from left), is here seen being shown round the Israel stand by Mr. Nysen, Israeli Ambassador in Paris. Accompanying the Premier (to his right) is M. Jeanneney, French Minister of Industry.

exhibits; many of them proudly say "Shalom" to show they are not just curious sightseers. I even saw an old Jewish lady from Algeria weeping with emotion. But an Israeli visitor has the right to leave tears to others and be critical.

For some reason, while Israel industrial branches which should turn their main efforts to export are absent from the Lyons display. No tires, no chocolate, no dentures; the Dead Sea is represented only by a reproduction of the famous Scrolling El Al too is absent from the pavilion in the local market. It is already on sale all over France. Canned salted peas were also an object of interest, at least partially owing to the tasteless display.

On the whole we are doing well at the Lyons Fair; but next time, perhaps, we shall be less modest and more intent on showing that the Land of the Bible is also a land of industry.

Soviet Oil To Flood Europe

By HERMAN RAY

SOVIET Russia is building thousands of miles of oil pipeline from the Byelorussian oil city of Minsk to the Baltic sea coast. When completed this will enable the U.S.S.R. to flood North European markets with cheap Caucasian crude oil.

At the same time, Soviet engineers and technicians are completing a modern oil port at Klaipeda in the Lithuanian Soviet Republic. The Baltic port will be able to handle ocean-going vessels. Another oil port is planned at Ventspils on the Latvian coast, where a refinery is already under construction.

The oil the Russians expect to offer Europe will at first be for sealing purposes only, according to informants here. But from 1961 Russians will be able to supply petroleum for automobiles and airplanes.

At the same time, Russia, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary have begun to lay a huge transcontinental pipeline to bring oil from the Baku oil field, the heart of Central Europe. Approximately 4,000,000 tons of crude a year will be pumped through it in 1963, and 8,000,000 in 1965.

Due to the hard winter, the Eastern European pipeline will be at least two metres deep. Pumping stations will be situated every 25 kilometres along the route.

East Germany has already mobilized 1,000 members of the State Committee for Free German Youth Organization (F.D.J.) to help with the pipeline in the city of Schwerin in Frankfurt-an-der-Oder near the Polish frontier on a "voluntary" basis. It will be connected with the pipeline project.

What is Russia's Aim?

WHAT does the U.S.S.R. want of us? Moscow (General Zolotarev) asks point-blank in a rejoinder to the violent Russian reaction to Mr. Ben-Gurion's trip to the West. Our neighbours are threatening us with destruction. Moscow is providing them with arms that will one day tempt them to translate their threat into action; but we desire to go on existing. The only hope is that we may influence others to exert their influence on Russia to stop sending the Arabs arms so that we may feel secure: that is a far cry from the accusation that the Prime Minister has incited the West against Russia and attempted to torpedo the coming Summit talks.

Harvard (non-party) recalls that Moscow has intimidated time and again that it wants the friendship of all peoples in the region, but its attitude to Israel refutes that contention. Russia has stopped supplying us with oil and does not buy our citrus. In fact she is boycotting us. There is no country, even in the Communist bloc, that so

Readers' Letters

I.P.O.'S OBLIGATIONS
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I have read with great amazement Mr. Cohen's reply on behalf of the I.P.O. especially the last paragraph, where Mr. Cohen speaks with virtuous élan about the Orchestra's duty to its subscribers (your issue of today).

In scheduling the opera, which is outside the subscription series, for nearly two months at the head of the Orchestra, has quite arbitrarily set a subscription concert time-table with a big gap, and the remaining eight concerts out of this season, which will be in quick succession into the few spring months.

Has it ever occurred to the management of the I.P.O. that its primary obligation is to its regular subscribers — who are after all its members — and that only after having discharged this obligation conscientiously and faithfully can it indulge in sidelines?

Yours, etc.
"AN OLD SUBSCRIBER"
(Name and Address Supplied)
Tel Aviv, March 2.

Orchestra Replaces
The Orchestra season customarily runs until the end of July or the first days of August, which means that the seven subscription concerts that remain to be given this season — after the conclusion of the coming series with Gary Bertini conducting and Mme. Gina Bachauer as soloist — will be given at fortnightly intervals. We do not think this can be termed "crowded" in quick succession.

Your correspondent will doubtless recall that the "Barber of Seville" and "Falstaff" with Maestro Giulini conducting, were also given in the February-March quarter of the season, this being the time when the Maestro can make himself available.

B.B.C. Hebrew Service

No Longer Jammed

By S. J. GOLDSMITH
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

Russian jamming of the B.B.C. Hebrew broadcasts has now ceased, and reception has improved greatly. It should now be much easier for Israelis to hear these programmes, some of which are of real interest, drawing on the vast resources of the B.B.C. as a whole.

The Hebrew Service is now part of the B.B.C.'s recently amalgamated South and West European Region, which should suit Israel listeners more from the point of view of programming content and taste than the Middle East Department to which it formerly belonged.

Listeners interested in winning English books may wish to participate in the Section's current competition. They are invited to submit either a critical appraisal of the Hebrew Service programmes in the coming days up to March 28 inclusive or an essay on "What programme I would offer if I were the organizer of the B.B.C. Hebrew Service." The length of the essay should be 600 words, the deadline is April 2 and the address is the B.B.C.'s Tel Aviv office, P.O.B. 2667, which makes it easy. Winners will be able to select their own books to a value of £10 for the first prize, £5 for the second prize (two each for participants) and under £5 and £3 for the six third prizes.

PLEASE COME, QUICK!



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What is Russia's Aim?

frustrates every attempt at improving mutual relations. We regret this and will appreciate the danger in such a state of affairs. We want Russia's friendship as much as any other nation's but, so long as she supports elements that plan our destruction, we fear that our wish will remain a mere hope.

Harvard (National Religious) also recalls that Mr. Ben-Gurion twice asked to meet the Soviet leaders but that he did not even receive the courtesy of a reply; how then does Moscow charge us with knowing to the West?

In the view of Davar (Histadrut), the 10-nation disarmament talks at Geneva are bound to strike a snag because of the mutual mistrust over implementation. The paper therefore suggests another tack: instead of planning universal disarmament, the nations should turn their attention to the possibility of regional disarmament. First, the Middle East would be the best place to begin; if it doesn't succeed here, disarmament will succeed nowhere.

THANKS, DR. STEIN

Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — My uncle, Kyriakos Asikim, and his family wish to thank Dr. Stein of the Hashomer Government Hospital and his assistants for the successful eye operation performed by Dr. Stein from which my uncle has just returned home fully cured and quite happy.

An afflicted blind man some weeks ago, with no hope whatsoever of seeing anything of the world again, my uncle has recovered his eyesight thanks to the miraculous performance of such a delicate operation.

We in Cyprus, a neighbouring and appreciative country, look to you with affection and gratitude for medical assistance in cases of distress and despair. Let your scientific research flood and illuminate the world with the light of knowledge and research for the eradication of evils that are scourging humanity, and let your wonderful spirit of altruism and love of mankind make life worth living. Yours, etc.

JOHN HADJAPIS
Limassol, February 18.

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Registration of New Pupils for the 1960/61 School Year

Registration for the 3rd grade (9th year of study) for graduates of elementary schools begins on Sunday, April 3, 1960, and ends on Wednesday, April 6, 1960.

When registering, please submit the following documents:

- 1) School Report for Seventh study year.
- 2) School report for second term of current school year (Eighth school year)
- 3) Photo of applicant.

The Secretariat will be open from 9.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m. and 4-5 p.m.

Registration for 5th and 6th Elementary grades and secondary grades 1-5 (7th-11th school years) begins on Tuesday, April 18, 1960.

The Secretariat will be open daily from 10 a.m.-12 noon and on Tuesday and Thursday between 4-5.30 p.m.

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MARGINAL COMMENT

AT CROSS-PURPOSES

By Nisim Rejman

WE have to admit that, for some years now, our sole reminder of the Arab League's birthday has come by way of the Jordan press. With a consistency and a singleness of mind worthy of a nobler cause, the Jordanian Prime Minister's Office issues an announcement, year in, year out, to the effect that such and such a day—March 22—is the "Arab League Day" and declares it an official holiday. Jordan must be the only Arab country which thus celebrates this rather uninspiring occasion, and it does this no matter how it happens to be faring in the League at the time. This loyalty to an apparently quite ineffectual body is inspired by something more than the mere desire to make a show of Arab fervour. Whatever may be said about the Arab League and its falling under Cairo's domination, this half-paralyzed institution does in fact constitute an obstacle to the hegemony of any one Arab country.

THIS, we hasten to add, needs some explaining. When the Pact of the Arab League was signed in Cairo on March 22, 1945, it was clearly understood by the signatories that there was to be an association of independent and fully sovereign States. The Pact, signed "with a view to strengthening the close relations and numerous ties which bind the Arab States," was explicit enough on this point. The formation of the League, it was stated right from the outset, was decided upon in order to "cement and reinforce these bonds on the basis of respect for the independence and sovereignty of the member-States." The founders of the League, in short, envisaged it as an instrument of cooperation rather than one of union or merger of any kind. As long as the member-States recognized this, the League "worked"; slow progress was made in the field of cooperation in the cultural, economic and technical spheres. But as soon as some member-States tried to use it for more ambitious purposes, in the military and political fields, the League began to founder.

ONE day, it will have to dawn on Cairo's rulers that they cannot have it both ways. They must decide either for an Arab League or an Arab union: the two cannot exist side by side.

Tel Aviv, March 22.

NATURE NOTES

Hedgehog in the House

IN Israel, hedgehogs don't hibernate. So, when a neighbour offered one he had found in his garden to a European visitor, she was enchanted and at once installed him in the kitchen, where he has made himself at home. By day he sleeps in the lowest compartment of the air cupboard behind the potatoes, and an assortment of soft woolly rags. He chose that place for a bed himself. By night he roams the kitchen, shy enough to retire into a corner or right back to his bed when we switch on the light, but never rolling himself up except under dire provocation, as when he is prodded by us forcibly, with a rake. We do that now and again to watch him unroll, which is quite a sight, especially if we have cruelly placed him on his back, the better to watch his odd contortions. It is strange that when he is shy, slowly, not even inch by inch, but millimetre by millimetre — opens up where he has firmly pulled the shutters

before, some muscles are released with a twitch. The gap widens imperceptibly, then the dear little snout appears, and eye cautiously turns to the watchers, another twitch and you see the little five-fingered paw all four of them close to the snout, and so it goes. Presently he turns over and

shuffles away, but he never stops so long as we are present, or at least so long as the light is on. He is fed on bread and milk, with a morsel of whatever meat or fish is available. He eats in amusements, and everything at a time and in between. P.A.

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by John Braine

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Madrid Letter

By R. Scott Mowrer

Communists Making Headway

DEMOCRATIC-minded opponents of the Franco regime are discouraged and angry. They are also very worried.

Their worry stems from the conviction that the longer the Franco regime endures (and it looks like enduring for some time) the more Communist influence is likely to make headway among disoriented Spaniards. They fear that in the long run, as discontent builds up, the Communists will benefit since the angrier people get the more prone they are to an extremist.

So, say anti-totalitarian dissidents, the chances of a democratic middle course as an alternative to Franco's authoritarianism are dimming, whereas the risk increases of today's right-wing dictatorship being replaced by a Communist dictatorship.

Discontent in Spain is growing, mainly among the country's rich, middle industrial workers. At the end of 1958 their economic situation had improved as a consequence of the 40 per cent general wage increase decreed by the government. They could afford to eat more meat, buy motor-scooters on the installment plan, and then inflation combined with a recession and loss of overtime for many workers has cut earnings. Since last autumn an estimated 10 million Spaniards have lost between 25 and 40 per cent of their buying power.

This makes for a state of mind which Communist and non-Communist opponents of the regime are seeking to exploit.

According to non-Communist dissidents the Communists are making headway in the democratic camp. The explanation is that the Communists have funds and political support from outside Spain, plus experience in underground organization, infiltration, clandestine subversion, propaganda. In addition the Communists are aided by daily Spanish language broadcasts from beyond the Iron Curtain.

Democratic-minded opponents of the regime have practically no experience in subversion or clandestinity. They are amateurish, and they ruefully admit it. They cannot afford to be so, for the support they ought to get from abroad. Franco is getting democratic support from the Western democracies, not us, they say. They are angered by the fact that American economic aid has bolstered the regime and discouraged by the diplomatic success highlighted by President Eisenhower's visit here in December.

Spain's democratic opposition is further hampered by an inefficient press censorship, a combination which effectively prevents the anti-totalitarians from building up a popular following. Consequently the non-Communist opposition consists of little more than drawing-room gatherings of leaders without followers. It is so ineffective that the police is content merely to observe and do nothing.

The non-Communist dissidents are also handicapped by a chronic inability to reach agreement among themselves. Up to now they have been incapable of forming a workable united front. This weakness was glaringly apparent at the time of the Eisenhower visit.

Dissident monarchists, various socialist splinter groups, moderate and left-wing Christian democrats, liberals and others met to draw up a collective statement, which they were to request the American Ambassador to give to the President. Ambassador John Davis Lodge agreed to receive a delegation representing these groups. But the dissidents could not reach agreement on the statement. The anti-Franco monarchist Union Espanola and the moderate wing of the Christian democratic backed out. In the end no delegation called on the American Ambassador. A letter protesting American collaboration with Franco Spain was simply handed in at the Embassy.

The latest setback suffered by the opposition Communist as well as democratic, was caused by the recent bomb plot engineered by a wild-eyed group called DRIL (Directorio Revolucionario Iberico de Liberacion). DRIL has its headquarters in Latin America, presumably Cuba. Its membership consists of exiled Spaniards with anarchist leanings, and Latin American sympathizers.

On February 18 and 19 two bombs exploded in Madrid. One of the plotters was killed by his own bomb. Other casualties were wounded. The bomb had been placed on the window-sill of the Prado museum, near a tree-shaded area where children and their nurses come in the afternoons.

The leader of the terrorists, a Cuban, escaped to France, but two collaborators, local Spaniards, were caught. They were quickly tried by a military court. One was sentenced to death and the other to jail.

Since the vast majority of Spaniards are presently opposed to violence as a means of getting rid of the Franco regime, the bomb plot played into the hands of the government. The authorities have given full publicity to the affair, telling the public that opposition to the regime in any form adds up to violence and bloodshed, which nobody wants.

AT THE CINEMA

Telephone Mate

Pillow Talk (Ophir — second week) is a fairly amusing, rather lively and well-dressed film which presents a blonder-than-ever Doris Day as Jan, an interior decorator, and Rock Hudson as Brad, a successful song-writer, who are joined together by a party telephone line. Jan can never manage to get a phone call as Brad spends so much time talking to his numerous girlfriends. She upbraids him and he thinks she is a frustrated spinster and although they have never met, they cordially dislike one another. Then they do meet but while Brad knows who she is, Jan has no idea that the handsome stranger is her telephone-mate. The conclusion can be easily imagined although it takes rather long to get there.

Director Michael Gordon makes effective use of the split-screen technique that was used so well in "Indiscreet." Doris and Rock are adequate and look attractive but Tony Randall as Jan's long-suffering admirer has most of the funny lines and does very well with them.

"Journey to the Centre of the Earth" (Tel Aviv — second week) is an adventure story that the children will enjoy. It has many exciting incidents, some horrifying prehistoric monsters and an ingenuitous time duck.

Based on the Jules Verne novel and directed by Harry Levin, the film describes an expedition through the crater of a volcano in Iceland down to the centre of the earth. The return is with a propelled by a volcanic eruption.

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